

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SCI-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 IO-03 NSC-07 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 ACDA-10 SAJ-01 SP-01

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R 131043Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4542
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T IAEA VIENNA 5237

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UR, US, TECH, IAEA

SUBJ: STAFFING OF IAEA SAFEGUARDS DEPARTMENT

REF: MOSCOW 8970

1. MOROKHOV, FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, STATE COMMITTEE ON ATOMIC ENERGY, WAS IN VIENNA JUNE 10 AND MORNING JUNE 11. HE AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR ARKADIEV CALLED ON AMBASSADOR PORTER AND MYSELF ON JUNE 10 TO DISCUSS INTER ALIA SAFEGUARDS PERSONNEL PROBLEMS. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION MOROKHOV SAID HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY US OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW THAT ROMETSCH HAD SUBMITTED RESIGNATION. (COMMENT: THIS WAS EITHER A GARBLE OR SOME SORT OF A COVER STORY FOR THE TIMBERBAEV COMMENTS. WE CONJECTURE THAT SOVS WERE INFORMED BY SOVIET NATIONAL IN ROMETSCH'S DEPARTMENT.) WE INFORMED HIM THAT WE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH ACTION. WE DISCUSSED THE MATTER EXTENSIVELY WITH MOROKHOV AND REACHED A MEASURE OF AGREEMENT ON A DESIRABLE SOLUTION TO THE SAFEGUARDS STAFFING PROBLEM. MOROKHOV THEN TALKED TO ROMETSCH AND DG EKLUND ON JUNE 11 AND WE ARE CONTINUING CONVERSATIONS WITH BOTH AT THEIR REQUEST.

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2. ROMETSCH INFORMED US AFTER HIS MOROKHOV CONVERSATION

THAT HE HAD TENDERED RESIGNATION MAY 27, THAT DG HAD NOT ACCEPTED IT AND ROMETSCH IS ASKING OUR ASSISTANCE TO TRY TO FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION WHICH WILL PROVIDE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH HE CAN REMAIN ON JOB. THE SITUATION IS COMPLEX AND INVOLVES BOTH ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS AND SETTLEMENT OF LONG STANDING FEUDS AND PERSONAL ANTAGONISMS AMONG SAFEGUARDS STAFF.

3. WE INTEND TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO GET ROMETSCH AND THE DG TO AGREE ON AN ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE. WE DID AGREE WITH MOROKHOV THAT IT DESIRABLE NOT TO HAVE CHANGES IN THE SENIOR SAFEGUARDS STAFF UNTIL NEXT SUMMER AND WE WILL TRY TO PRESERVE THAT OBJECTIVE IF A COMPROMISE CAN BE FOUND. THE SITUATION IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY THE FACT ROMETACH IS OBVIOUSLY NOT IN GOOD HEALTH, A FACT WHICH EHIGHTENS HIS SENSITIVITIES.

4. IN VIEW OF COMPLEXITIES AND DELICACY OF SITUATION, SUGGEST THAT IF TIMBERBAEV BRINGS SUBJECT UP AGAIN, EMBASSY MOSCOW SHOULD GIVE NO INDICATION OF CONTENTS THIS MESSAGE AND SIMPLY AGREE TO TRANSMIT ANY INFORMATION TIMBERBAEV HAS.TAPE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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